

# Ceratophrys joazeirensis Mercadal, 1986 (Anura: Ceratophryidae): New state record

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**ABSTRACT:** This article provides new records to *Ceratophrys joazeirensis* of two new localities from the state of Sergipe, northeast Brazil. These records extend the geographical distribution of the species for municipalities from Poço Redondo and Canindé do São Francisco. These points are the first records of *Ceratophrys joazeirensis* for the State of Sergipe.

The genus *Ceratophrys* Wied-Neuwied, 1824 currently comprises eight species occurring in Tropical South America (Frost 2013) in forest and non-forest areas (Lynch 1982). Five species occur in Brazil *Ceratophrys aurita* (Raddi, 1823), *Ceratophrys cornuta* (Linnaeus, 1758), *Ceratophrys cranwelli* Barrio, 1980 *Ceratophrys joazeirensis* Mercadal de Barrio, 1986 and *Ceratophrys ornata* (Bell, 1843). The Caatinga Horned Frog *Ceratophrys joazeirensis* Mercadal (1986) is the only species of the genus that occurs in the Caatinga biome, a typical semi-arid morphoclimatic domain in northeastern Brazil (Ab'Saber 2003).

*Ceratophrys joazeirensis* has no population information available in the literature, since it is known from only a few specimens. It is a species of dry Caatinga savannah, which presumably breeds in temporary ponds by larval development (Skuk and Juncá 2004).

This species is reported from the type locality (vicinities of Juazeiro, Bahia, Brazil; Mercadal 1986), north of Triunfo, Pernambuco (Santos *et al.* 2009), Araruna, northern Paraíba, from the vicinities of Passa-e-Fica, northern Rio Grande do Norte (Vieira *et al.* 2006), from Santa Maria, Rio Grande do Norte (Jorge *et al.* 2012) and from Pindobaçu, Bahia (Zaidan and Leite 2012). Recently, two new records were reported, from São Raimundo Nonato, Piauí (Roberto *et al.* 2013) and Buritizeiro, Minas Gerais (Maciel *et al.*

2013). We also present a map (Figure 1) and data in Table 1 of the current known distribution of this species based on literature.

The present study relates the occurrence of *C. joazeirensis* (Figure 2) in two localities in Caatinga area in Sergipe, in northeast Brazil. The first record corresponds Serra da Guia (09°58'52" S, 37°52'05" W, 727 m above sea level) in the municipality of Poço Redondo, Sergipe (Figure 1). The second record corresponds Xingó Power Plant (09°37'38" S, 37°48'08" W; 100 above sea level) in the municipality of Canindé do São Francisco, Sergipe (Figure 1). This records extends the known distribution of *C. joazeirensis* approximately 300 km east of the type locality. The individuals of *C. joazeirensis* were collected, fixed in formalin 4% and preserved in alcohol 70%. The specimen had their identification confirmed based on color patterns of head as a blot between the interocular space to the nostrils and upper eyelids fairly pronounced, based on the description of Mercadal (1986) and the nomenclature followed the classification recommended by the Brazilian Herpetology Society (Segalla *et al.* 2012). Voucher specimens were deposited at the Herpetological Collection of the Universidade Federal de Sergipe (CHUFS), (C348 and C353). Collecting permit (# 10504-1) was granted by Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Naturais Renováveis - IBAMA.

**TABLE 1.** Localities of known distribution of *Ceratophrys joazeirensis*.

| STATE               | MUNICIPALITY             | LATITUDE (S) | LONGITUDE (W) | REFERENCE                    |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Bahia               | Juazeiro                 | 09°24'38,00" | 40°30'26,00"  | Mercadal (1986)              |
| Bahia               | Pindobaçu                | 10°44'44,84" | 40°21'28,65"  | Zaidan and Leite (2012)      |
| Minas Gerais        | Buritizeiro              | 17°21'03,00" | 44°57'43,00"  | Maciel <i>et al.</i> (2013)  |
| Pernambuco          | Triunfo                  | 07°50'17,48" | 38°06'06,59"  | Santos <i>et al.</i> (2009)  |
| Paraíba             | Araruna                  | 06°26'07,00" | 35°39'41,00"  | Vieira <i>et al.</i> (2006)  |
| Piauí               | São Raimundo Nonato      | 09°01'05,46" | 42°42'09,66"  | Roberto <i>et al.</i> (2013) |
| Rio Grande do Norte | Passa-e-Fica             | 06°26'15,19" | 35°38'37,61"  | Vieira <i>et al.</i> (2006)  |
| Rio Grande do Norte | Santa Maria              | 05°51'14,40" | 35°42'03,60"  | Jorge <i>et al.</i> (2012)   |
| Sergipe             | Poço Redondo             | 09°58'52,00" | 37°52'05,00"  | <b>New Record</b>            |
| Sergipe             | Canindé do São Francisco | 09°37'38,80" | 37°48'08,38"  | <b>New Record</b>            |

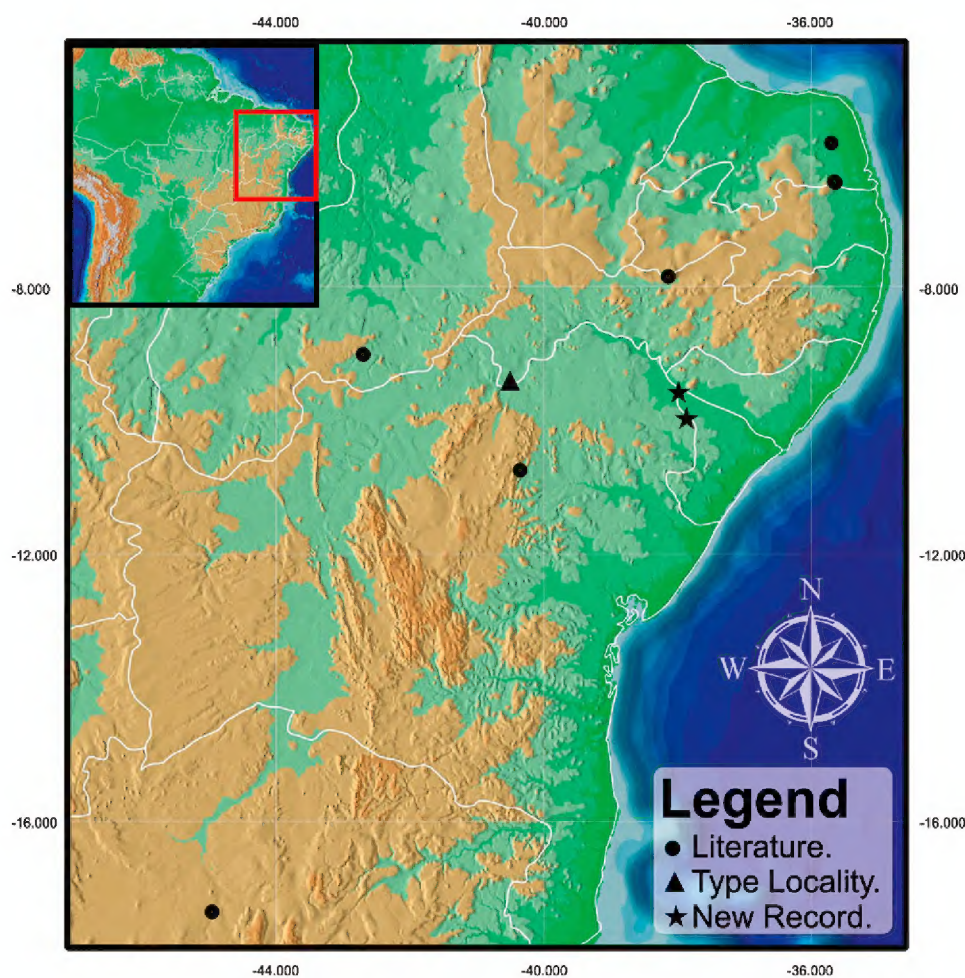


**FIGURE 1.** Geographic distribution of *Ceratophrys joazeirensis* in Brazil.



**FIGURE 2.** *Ceratophrys joazeirensis* (C348). Photo by Crizanto Brito De-Carvalho.

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